

CLASSIFICATION
Approved For Release 2001/11/26 : CIA-RDP82-00457R00300073000-9
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 16 AUG 49

SUBJECT Activities at the Zeiss Plant in Jena

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1A

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED

DATE OF I

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

1. In mid-June 1949 the Zeiss works at Jena, as well as the Schott plant in the same city, were ordered to furnish an unknown number of men for work in the Oberschlema mining area. One casual source claims that the works were asked to supply up to 30 percent of their manpower.
2. At the end of June 1949 Zeiss had in operation a newly constructed hall for the gradual cooling of lenses. Part of this installation is underground.
3. In early July 1949, Zeiss was busy with the production of Schmidt type mirror telescopes with a mirror diameter of 2.50 meters. The first is expected to be completed sometime during 1951. Since climatic conditions in the Russian Zone are unfavorable to the operation of such a telescope, Professor Robert Rompe, Referent for Science and Universities in the Central Administration, soon will start negotiations with the Württemberg-Baden Government for the erection of a telescope on a peak in the Schwäbische Jura, considered the best region in Germany for this purpose.
4. Zeiss employees numbered 9,000 at the beginning of July 1949.

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Next Review Date: 2008

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Auth: LDC 129 771763
Date: MAY 1978 J1 By: 013

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